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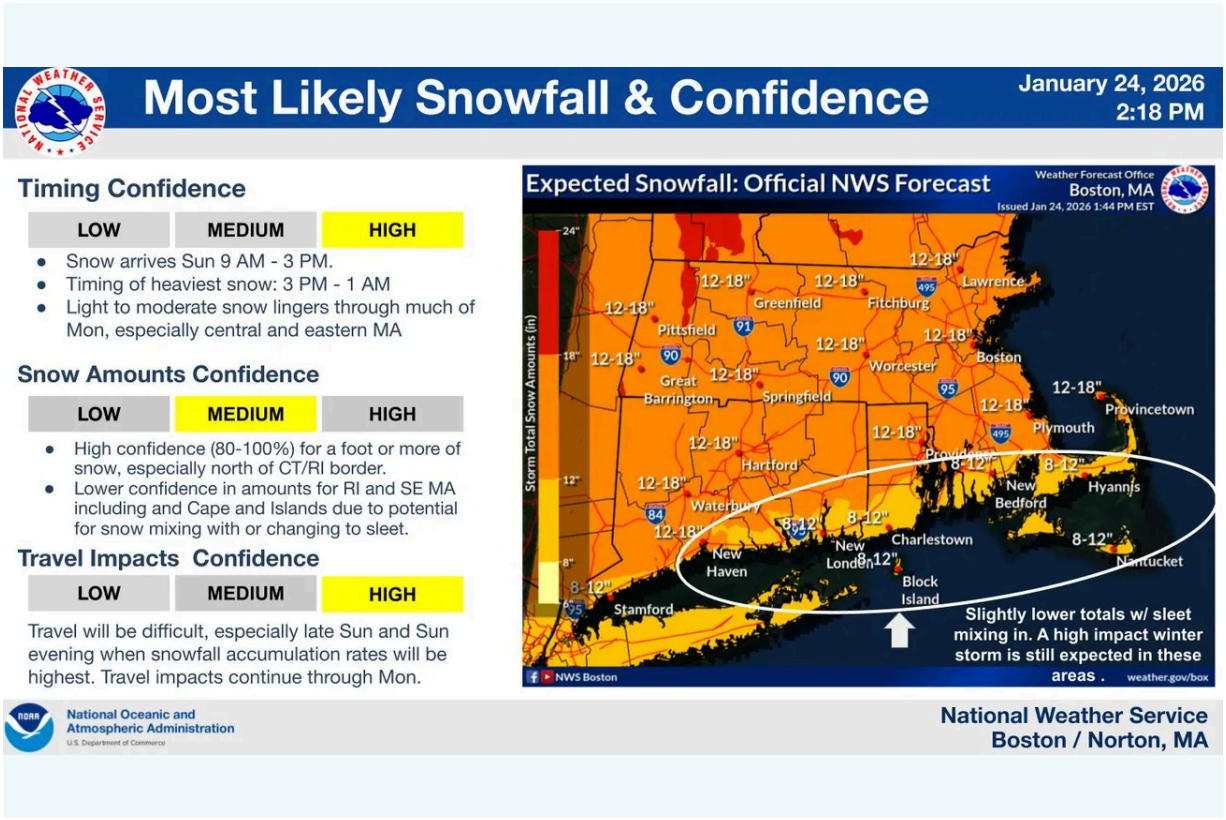
NEWS

Winchester orders vehicles off streets by 3 p.m. Sunday, no school Monday

Forecasters project totals reaching 12 to 18 inches, with the worst conditions overnight and a difficult commute expected early Monday.

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

January 24, 2026 . 5:29 PM — 2 min read



A look at the upcoming snowstorm, expected to drop between 12-18 inches of snow. COURTESY PHOTO/NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

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Winchester residents must remove all vehicles from streets by 3 p.m. Sunday as town officials prepare for a major winter storm expected to dump 12 to 18 inches of snow through Monday evening.

The town issued a parking ban effective 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, and announced all town offices will close Monday, Jan. 26. Vehicles left on streets during the ban are subject to ticketing and towing.

Residents needing parking during the storm may use the lot across from town hall or the Aberjona Lot across from the post office. All vehicles must be removed from those lots by 7 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27.

The National Weather Service Boston/Norton office issued a Winter Storm Warning for Winchester and much of southern New England from 7 a.m. Sunday to 8 p.m. Monday. The warning cites expected heavy snow with total accumulations of 12 to 18 inches.

According to National Weather Service forecasts, snow is expected mainly after 11 a.m. Sunday and will become heavy at times through Monday. Sunday's accumulation could reach 3 to 5 inches, with the heaviest snowfall Sunday night bringing an additional 7 to 11 inches. Monday could see another 1 to 3 inches before tapering off, with snow likely continuing Monday night mainly before 2 a.m. with less than half an inch possible.

The weather service warns travel will be difficult due to low visibility and snow-covered roads. The Monday morning commute is expected to be especially challenging.

Winchester's parking ban mirrors similar emergency measures being implemented across Massachusetts as communities brace for the significant winter storm. The town posted the parking ban notice Jan. 23 and said it would update residents when the ban is lifted.

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Town officials did not immediately specify whether the closure affects municipal services beyond town offices, such as trash collection or recreation programs.

The School Department announced all schools will be closed Jan. 26. An email was sent to parents, alerting them Winchester High School will continue with its culminating activities schedule as planned on Jan. 27.

The storm is part of a major weather system affecting a large portion of the United States starting Friday and continuing into Monday, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Weather Service. The broader system is bringing snow, sleet and freezing rain across multiple regions, though Winchester falls within the zone forecast for heavy snow accumulation.

Saturday brought extreme cold to the region, with an Extreme Cold Warning issued for western Massachusetts and a Cold Weather Advisory for the rest of the state. Wind chills dropped as low as 25 below zero in some areas.

Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey directed non-emergency Executive Department state employees not to report to their workplaces Monday and urged employers to consider remote work options where possible. The state activated its Emergency Operations Center in Framingham to coordinate response efforts.

The National Weather Service urges residents to consider delaying all travel during the storm. Those who must travel should keep an extra flashlight, food and water in their vehicles in case of emergency.

Winchester residents can monitor the town's website and alert system for updates on when the parking ban will be lifted and when town o reopen.

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Will Dowd is a Massachusetts journalist who covers municipal government and community life for Winchester News. He previously co-founded the Marblehead Current and now runs The Marblehead Independent, a reader-funded digital newsroom.

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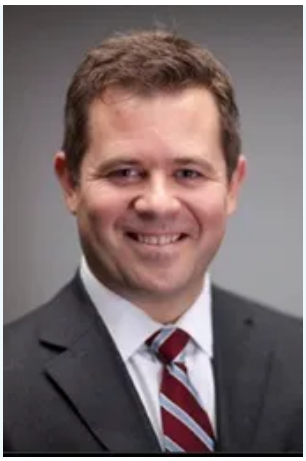

NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility

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Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

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NEWS

Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

March 3, 2026

NEWS

Winchester Select Board approves overnight parking pilot, permit fees increased

The Winchester Select Board on Feb. 23 approved an overnight parking pilot, raised building permit fees for the first time since 2021, adopted the 2026 outdoor dining policy and directed the town manager to examine reinvesting downtown-generated revenue into town center improvements. The board voted unanimously to implement the overnight

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FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

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March 4, 2026

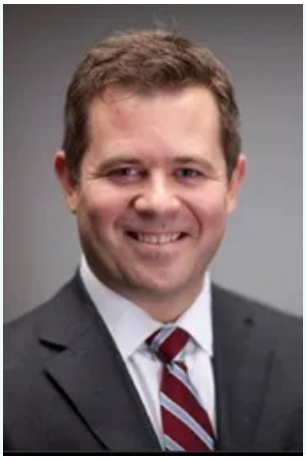
RIPLEY PRESENTS
SYLDASON: YOU ARE WELCOME HERE
MARCH 13, 2026
7:30 PM
Sylvie Zakarian, marimba and Daniela Tosic, voice
Featuring folk and classical works by Gomidas,
Hovhaness, Minkin, Radan, Tantchev, and Tassone.
fcc-winchester.com/ripleychapel

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026



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as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

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